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**THE SENATE  
STATE OF MICHIGAN  
ASSISTANT MAJORITY WHIP**

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August 23, 2004

To the editor:

All too often in today's hectic society, we take for granted the everyday heroes who keep our streets safe and help our friends and neighbors when they're in need. But where would we be without them?

Everyday heroes like firefighters, EMTs, police officers, ambulance drivers and others are there for us at all hours of the day and night, giving us peace of mind and allowing us to go about our daily lives knowing someone will be there if our house catches fire or we suffer an accident or health emergency.

Throughout the past 20-plus years, the men and women of the Livonia fire and police departments have been especially important to my family and to me for the care they have provided to my severely disabled brother and my homebound mother. They have always been there when we needed them. They are prompt, proficient, expert and sympathetic.

Additionally, I can assure the aging population of my community that our cities are committed to providing them top-quality care and outstanding service in their time of need. For the fine police, fire, emergency and public service workers, it is not just a job but a calling and a way of life.

On behalf of my family, friends and fellow citizens, I extend a profound and heartfelt thank you to these men and women. They deserve our gratitude and respect for the bravery, compassion, and professionalism they show every single day.

Sincerely,

Sen. Laura Toy  
6<sup>th</sup> District